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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Number 56.

DECEMBER, 1918.

CAPT. ALLEN H. JENNINGS.

It was with the deepest regret that the many friends and associates of Captain Jennings learned of his death on December 16 at the base hospital at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mr. Jennings had received orders from Washington to proceed to Hoboken for special duty. On December 12 he was saying farewell to many of his friends, having already sent his baggage to the depot. After saying good-bye to a friend in an automobile he stepped back and across the road directly in the path of a camp ambulance. He was run over squarely and sustained a fracture of the left femur and of five ribs. He was very brave about it all, and claimed the entire blame. Throughout all the examinations he was courageous and philosophical, but about 2 a.m. he became unconscious, never regaining consciousness, and died after about 72 hours. His sister and a friend from Staten Island arrived in time for the funeral and took charge of the body for shipment north.

Captain Jennings entered the service of the Bureau of Entomology August 1, 1911, and since that time has been employed in the investigation of the relations of insects to disease. The most notable portion of his work was done in cooperation with the Robert M. Thompson Pellagra Commission of the New York Post-Graduate School of Tropical Medicine with regard to the possible transmission of pellagra by insects. At the time of the outbreak of the war he was engaged in mosquito investigations. September 13, 1917, he entered the Sanitary Corps of the Army as a first lieutenant and throughout his service was stationed at Camp Shelby, where he had charge of all sanitation which related to insect control. His services were of such value that he was raised to the rank of captain.

Mr. Jennings was born November 9, 1866. His early education was received in private schools at Baltimore, Md. During 1886 and 1887 he was a special student in the Marine Biological Laboratory of Johns Hopkins University and made studies of marine biology, entomology, and ornithology in the Bahama Islands. In 1888 he rendered volunteer service in the Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institution. In 1905 he spent six months in the study of modern Equidae in the Division of Paleontology of the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

He was Entomologist of the Department of Sanitation, Isthmian Canal Commission, from November 9, 1906, to July 31, 1911.

Captain Jennings was liked by all his associates. He was uniformly courteous and considerate of other people, and a very painstaking investigator, unusually cautious about committing himself until positive of his ground. He was a very valuable man to the Bureau and will be greatly missed.

BEE CULTURE.

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge.

There were recently held in California, in cooperation with the University of California, three extension schools for commercial beekeepers. These were held

as follows: San Diego, November 25-30; Davis, December 2-7; Visalia, December 9-14. The proposed school at Riverside was abandoned because of quarantine for influenza. The total attendance at the three schools was over 300, and it was conservatively estimated that Riverside would have furnished over 200. The attendance was remarkably regular throughout the entire week's work in each place and the interest could not have been improved. Those in attendance were almost without exception beekeepers of large experience, owning colonies of bees numbering into the hundreds.

Dr. E. F. Phillips and Geo. S. Demuth of the Bureau went from Washington for these schools and Jay Smith of the Bureau, now stationed in California, also participated. The University was represented by Geo. A. Coleman and M.H. Mendleson, a practical beekeeper of the State. E. R. Root of Ohio and Frank C. Pellett of Illinois also spoke once at each school. Three sessions were held daily with two lectures each morning and afternoon. The evening sessions were devoted to lectures of a somewhat popular and more entertaining nature. It was planned to have a dinner for all in attendance at each place but this was abandoned at Visalia because of the prevalence of influenza. At Visalia all persons attending wore influenza masks at all sessions.

The outstanding feature of extension work of this type is the opportunity for thorough development of the subject. Messrs. Phillips and Demuth each gave four lectures on the behavior of bees during the entire year and the application of these facts to practice. Following this series the control of bee diseases was discussed in the same manner. Such a program is possible only when those in attendance can be held for several days and such a plan seems more productive of lasting results than the usual half-day extension meetings.

Previous to these meetings Messrs Phillips and Demuth spent two weeks in the National Forests of southern California studying the honey resources of the region. The Forest Service hopes to have much of this territory occupied by beekeepers, as considerable areas of the forests have no economic value other than for water conservation and honey production.

E. L. Sechrist has resigned, effective December 31, to engage in commercial beekeeping in Haiti. He will manage 2,000 colonies for a corporation.

R. F. Wixson of New York has been appointed special field agent for extension work in beekeeping in Virginia.

R. V. Rhine has been appointed special field agent in cooperation with the extension division of Kansas for beekeeping work.

P. W. Erbaugh, former special field agent, is with the Army of Occupation.

R. B. Wilson, a former employee, was recently made first lieutenant and D. W. Davis was in an Officers' Training Camp when armistice terms were signed.

DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

A. L. Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge.

E. R. Selkregg has been transferred temporarily to the Federal Horticultural Board to assist in scouting work for the pink bollworm of cotton in Texas.

A. O. Larson, who has been engaged in scouting work for the oriental fruit moth, made a short visit to Washington for conference. He has been assigned to extension work in deciduous-fruit insect control in Utah, with headquarters at Logan.

H. G. Ingerson, who has been in charge of the Bureau's investigations of grape insects in the northern Ohio grape belt, with headquarters at Cleveland, has resigned from the Bureau to accept a position in horticulture with the Ohio State University.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge.

A. H. Beyer, formerly attached to the Columbia, S. C., field station, has been transferred to Hessian fly investigations and stationed at Wichita, Kans., under J. R. Horton. This change will take effect January 1, 1919.

J. F. Gardner, recently employed as scientific assistant, attached to the station at Wichita, Kans., has resigned from the service because of ill health.

A. L. Ford, formerly engaged in the cooperative entomological extension work in Kansas, has been transferred to the Knoxville, Tenn., station, where he will devote his attention to the investigation of corn insects under the direction of George G. Ainslie.

Max Reeher, who resigned from the entomological service to enter the military service during the past year, has been reinstated and assigned to the cooperative entomological extension work in the State of Washington. His reinstatement will take effect January 2, 1919.

SOUTHERN FIELD-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

W. Dwight Pierce, Entomologist Acting in Charge.

J. U. Gilmore and T. P. Cassidy have been mustered out of the Army and have been reinstated in the Bureau of Entomology. Mr. Gilmore will return to his headquarters at Clarksville, Tenn., January 2. Mr. Cassidy returned to Tallulah, La., December 16.

Max Kisliuk, jr. has been assigned to a new project in cooperation with the commission which is investigating the disposal of human excreta. He will take up this work about January 20 at Wilmington, N. C.

W. H. Dumont was in Washington December 30 and 31. He has returned to his field station at Augusta, Ga.

The National Laundry Journal of Chicago will publish under date of January 1 an article entitled "Government Report on Laundry Machinery: Its Adaptability as a Means of Controlling Body Lice," by W. Dwight Pierce, R. H. Hutchison, and Abraham Moscovitz. The matter contained in this article constitutes the official report of the Laundries Branch, Salvage Division, Office of Director of Purchase and Storage, Quartermasters Corps.

LIBRARY.

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books.

British Columbia, Entomological Society, Proceedings, no. 10, March, 1917.
Systematic series. 31 p. Victoria, B. C., 1918.

- Cambridge University, Quick Laboratory. Collected papers, 1913-1918, with complete index of papers published 1906-1918. Various paging.
- Casey, T.L. Memoirs on the Coleoptera 8. 427 p. illus. Lancaster, Pa., 1918.
- Crosby, Cyrus R. Manual of vegetable garden insects. 391 p. New York, 1918.
- Fabre, J. H. The sacred beetle and others. 423 p. New York, 1918.
- Felt, E. P. Key to American insect galls. 310 p., illus., 16 pl. Albany, 1918. Bibliography, p. 232-241.
- King, Harold B. The control of insect pests of cotton. Khartoum. 4 p., 1918. (Entomological bulletin no. 9)
- King, Harold B. The pink bollworm (*Pectinophora* (*Gelechia*) *gossypiella* Saunders) at Tokar, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, during the season 1917-1918. 3 p. Khartoum, 1918. (Entomological Bulletin, no. 10.)
- Marie, Rene and Lesne, Pierre. Catalogue des coleopteres de la Region Malgache decrits ou mentionnes par L. Fairmaire 1849-1906. 180 p. Paris, 1917.
- Mickel, C. E. New species of Sphecoidea from the Central and Western States. 23 p. A synopsis of the Sphecoidea of Nebraska (Hymenoptera), p. 24-138. (Nebraska Univ. Studies, v. 17, no. 4, p. 319-456, October, 1917.)
- Miller, A. C. How to keep bees. (Ed. 2.) 50 p., illus. Providence, 1918. (An unnumbered bulletin of the R. I. Board of Agriculture)
- Misra, C. S. The present condition of lac cultivation in the plains of India. Agricultural Journal of India, v 13, pt. 3, p. 405-415, pl. XXIII, map. July, 1918.
- Mosley, F. O. Fungoid and insect pests and their control. Part 1. Vegetable and pulse crops. 26 p. illus. Reading (Eng.), 1918.
- Rau, Philip. Wasp Studies afield, by Philip Rau and Nellie Rau. 372 p., illus. Princeton, 1918.
- Steven, H. M. Contributions to the knowledge of the family Chermesidae no 1. The biology of the Chermes of spruce and larch and their relation to forestry. Proc. Royal Soc. Edinburgh, sess. 1916-1917, v. 37, pt. 4, p. 356-381, illus. Separate issued January 15, 1918. Literature, p. 379-381.
- Tinsley, Jos. Preliminary report on Isle of Wight bee disease. West Scotland Agr. College Bul. 85. 1918.
- Vaud. (Canton) Switzerland Department de l'Agriculture, de l' Industrie, et du Commerce. 3^e Service. Agriculture. Phylloxera. Rapport de la Station Viticole et du Service Phylloxerique, 1915-1916. Lausanne, 1916-1917.
- Wilson, H. F. and Vickery, R. A. A species list of the Aphididae of the world and their recorded food plants. (Trans. Wisconsin Acad. Sciences, v. 19, pt. 1, p. 22-355, November, 1918.)

EXTENSION WORK IN ENTOMOLOGY.

J. A. Hyslop, Entomologist in Charge.

A. D. Borden, formerly associated with the citrus fruit insect investigations at the Alhambra Laboratory, has been transferred to extension work along the same lines in California.

A. L. Ford, formerly carrying on extension work in the control of cereal and forage insects in Kansas, has returned to his research activities with the same division.

W. H. Goodwin has been appointed to carry on extension work in the control

of deciduous-fruit insects in New Jersey. Mr. Goodwin was formerly associated with the oriental peach moth investigations.

R. H. Jung, formerly associated with the sweet-potato weevil survey work, has resigned from the service.

A. O. Larson, formerly associated with the oriental peach-moth work, has been transferred to extension work in the control of deciduous-fruit insects in Utah.

John H. Moore has severed his connection with the extension work in the control of cereal and forage insects in New England.

Charles F. Moreland has been transferred from extension work in the control of the sweet-potato weevil to research work on the same subject.

R. V. Rhine has been appointed to carry on cooperative extension work in apiculture in Kansas.

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS.

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge.

The inspection work for the sweet-potato weevil in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi has been practically completed, and the limits of the infestation have been well defined.

The situation in Louisiana and Texas has been complicated by the shortage of propagation material last spring, due to the destruction by freezing, during the unusually severe winter, of much of the bedding stock in the northern part of these States. Bedding stock was preserved in only the southern counties, all of which are liberally infested by the weevil, and the demand for seed sweet potatoes the past spring has operated to distribute the weevil broadcast, thus probably presaging its introduction into many new localities in these States.

T. H. Jones, in charge of the truck-insect laboratory at Baton Rouge, La., is visiting Washington for conference with regard to the coming season's work.

J. E. Dudley, jr., in charge of cucumber insect work at Madison, Wis., has completed a conference with Heinz officials and the Department of Agriculture in Washington and Baltimore, and has returned to Madison.

J. E. Graf, in charge of field work on the sweet-potato weevil, has completed a tour of the stations on that project. He visited Washington for conference prior to this.

M. M. High, in charge of the Kingsville, Tex., station, is visiting Louisiana for conference with entomologists in that State.

A. L. Johnson and Ralph Jung, weevil inspectors for the State of Alabama, have completed the inspection work to which they were assigned, and have resumed private duties.

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